

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Apparatus for restraining movement of a valve embedded in the ground, comprising:

an anchor for securement to the valve and including an anchor body for disposition in the ground and having at least first and second plates spaced from one another and extending generally vertically in discrete planes non-parallel to one another and which planes, when extended, intersect one another along a generally vertical line; and

a connecting member carried by said anchor body connecting said plates to one another and engageable with the valve to substantially minimize or eliminate rotational movement of the valve relative to the anchor in response to a torque applied to the valve to open or close the valve.

2. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said connecting member lies to one side of the vertical line.

3. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said planes and said plates lying in said planes are oriented about 90° relative to one another.

4. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said anchor has a center of support against vertical movement laterally offset from the vertical line.

5. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the connecting member includes a plurality of angularly-related flats for engagement about the valve.

6. Apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein said flats extend along said connecting member between upper edges of said plates, and define a recess in said connecting member having a lateral opening for receiving the valve.

7. Apparatus according to Claim 6 wherein said connecting member includes an arm having a first flat in generally horizontal registration with a second flat, said first and second flats lying diametrically opposite one another and to one side of said vertical line.

8. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said connecting member includes a plate extending generally horizontally between said vertically extending plates.

9. Apparatus according to Claim 8 wherein said planes and said plates lying in said planes are oriented about 90° relative to one another, the connecting member including a plurality of angularly-related flats facing inwardly from and formed along an inner edge of said horizontal plate, said flats defining a recess in said connecting member having a lateral opening for receiving the valve.

10. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said planes and said plates lying in said planes are oriented about 90° relative to one another, said connecting member including a plurality of angularly related flats

extending between upper edges of said plates, said connecting member including an arm having a first flat of said plurality of flats in generally horizontal registration with a second flat of said plurality of flats, said first and second flats lying diametrically opposite one another and to one side of said vertical line.

11. Apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said plates each have a height-to-width ratio of at least 2:1.

12. An in-ground irrigation system, comprising:

a valve having a central vertical axis and threaded onto a pipe about said vertical axis, said valve including a valve body having a plurality of flats about said axis;

an anchor for securement to said valve and including an anchor body disposed in the ground and extending at least partially about said valve, said anchor body including first and second plates spaced from one another and extending generally vertically in discrete planes non-parallel to one another and which planes, when extended, intersect one another along a generally vertical line laterally offset from said axis; and

a connecting member carried by said anchor body connecting said plates to one another and engaged with said valve, said anchor body including a recess having a plurality of angularly-related flats facing inwardly towards and engaging the flats of said valve body to substantially preclude rotation of the valve relative to

the anchor body in response to a torque applied to the valve to open or close the valve.

13. Apparatus according to Claim 12 wherein said connecting member lies to one side of the vertical line.

14. A system according to Claim 12 wherein said planes and said plates lying in said planes are oriented about 90° relative to one another.

15. Apparatus according to Claim 12 wherein said anchor has a center of support against vertical movement, said center of support lying laterally offset from the vertical line and closely spaced to or coincident with the vertical axis.

16. A system according to Claim 12 wherein said anchor body flats extend along said connecting member between upper edges of said plates and define a recess in said connecting member having a lateral opening for receiving said valve, said connecting member including an arm having a first flat of said plurality of anchor body flats lying in generally horizontal registration with a second flat of said plurality of anchor body flats, said first and second anchor body flats lying diametrically opposite one another and to one side of said vertical line and on opposite sides of said lateral opening.

17. A system according to Claim 12 wherein the anchor body includes a plurality of angularly-related flats formed along an inner edge of said connecting member between said plates and defining a recess in said connecting member having an opening for receiving said

valve, said planes and said plates lying in said planes being oriented about 90° relative to one another, said connecting member extending along said anchor body between upper edges of said plates, said connecting member including a projecting arm having a first flat in generally horizontal registration across said recess with a second flat, said first and second anchor body flats lying diametrically opposite to one another and to one side of said vertical line and on opposite sides of said opening.

18. Apparatus for restraining movement of a valve embedded in the ground, comprising:

an anchor for securement to the valve and including an anchor body having first and second plates extending generally vertically relative to the anchor body with inner edges of said plates spaced from one another, said plates extending in discrete planes non-parallel to one another and which planes, when extended, intersect one another along a generally vertical line; and

means carried by said anchor body for engaging the valve to substantially eliminate or minimize rotational movement of the valve relative to the anchor upon rotational movement applied to the valve to open or close the valve.

19. Apparatus according to Claim 18 wherein said engaging means is offset from said vertical line.

20. Apparatus according to Claim 18 wherein said plates each have a height-to-width ratio of at least 2:1 and lie generally at right angles to one another.